

# **TOWN OF LINCOLN**

## **PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING**

**May 14, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. Commission members present were Chairman Kevin Bryson, Paul Hetu, Roy Coulombe, Erin Vaughan, Robert Sylvestre, Gary Stott and David Boyle.

The Commission members reviewed the minutes for the April 19, 2008 meeting. A motion was made by Member Gary Stott to accept the April 19, 2008 minutes and the motion was seconded by Member Paul Hetu. The motion was carried with a 7-0 vote to accept the April minutes.

The Commission members reviewed the Director's Report for the month of April. All the Commission members feel that the placement of the Chet Nichol's sign is very susceptible to vandalism. The members all feel that the sign should be placed higher up on the backstop.

### **Commissioner's Reports:**

Saylesville – Paul Hetu – The parking issue is the same. He noticed that cars were parking against the fence. He saw very small children playing soccer.

Lonsdale – Roy Coulombe – No report.

Albion – Erin Vaughan – During the construction of the new

playground the playground equipment was on the basketball court. The new playground equipment is in place now but there is no surface yet so the area is roped off with caution tape.

Manville – Robert Sylvestre – There is a lot of baseball, practices, basketball by the Youth Center and fishing within the park.

Fairlawn – Gary Stott – The skate park is crowded. The fields are in good shape and the baseball field is also being used.

Limerock – David Boyle – The park is very busy. There are a lot of games going on. When there is the transition of games there is no parking anywhere.

Quinnville – Kevin Bryson – The park needs some sprucing up. There is a sign in the park (one side says the name of the park and the other side has the park rules) that is on the ground. Chairman Bryson feels that the poles that supported the sign rotted out and it was not due to vandalism.

### **Old Business:**

Commission members reviewed the progress for the Lonsdale Field Renovation. There are mounds of dirt on the field and they should have started spreading the dirt by now. The members feel that they have had sufficient time to get the field laid out. There is also a run-off pond in the area of the access road and parking area. Is this area going to be fenced off? The members agree that the run-off pond is taking up a significant amount of space. They do not recall ever seeing this run-off pond in the prints and from the looks of it, it seems like it is going to be permanent. The members also noticed

there is a tremendous amount of logs in the neighbors' yard. Did the Town give the abutting home the logs? Why would the Town cut them down when they should have remained in place as a buffer for the field and foul balls. Commission member Erin Vaughan commented that Lucena Brothers is only there approximately 3 out of the 5 days a week. They also are very noisy while school is in session and the school building was actually vibrating one day. Why was this done when school was in session and not on April vacation? According to the Commission members Lucena Brothers was not there at all the week of April vacation. It was also noted that they work a lot in the rain.

Commission member Gary Stott researched the Conveyance Tax idea. He was told by Mayor McKee's office that they are going forward with the idea and it is going to happen. All the money from the Conveyance Tax currently goes to Cumberland's Open Space but eventually will go to the Parks and Recreation. Member Gary Stott was also informed that any funds that are accumulated from the Conveyance tax will help to match funds for grants from the State. Cumberland is hoping to receive .30 on the dollar from the Conveyance tax. There will be a monetary restriction of \$100,000 per year. Mayor McKee's office will keep Commission Member Gary Stott informed as more details come in.

**New Business:**

Commission member Robert Sylvestre stated that he called National Grid regarding the pole that is a safety hazard within the park and National Grid informed him that they could not offer any help with the removal of the pole. They stated that the pole is on private property and someone else would have to remove it. Commission member Robert Sylvestre said that he informed the Assistant Parks and Recreation Director, Andy Wade about the hazardous pole and asked him to speak with the Parks and Recreation Director Paul Prachniak about this matter.

The Commission members noticed that some drilling has taken place at the field next to the Senior Center. It appears that there are perc tests being done along the outfield perimeters. The Commission members are hoping that a new field will be built somewhere else first before taking down the old one.

Chairman Kevin Bryson stated that he would like to set up a meeting with Town Administrator Joseph Almond to discuss the Conveyance Tax idea and Lime Acres/Senior Center.

Commission member Paul Hetu stated that he met with the Parks and Recreation Director Paul Prachniak at the Town Hall regarding the parking situation at Saylesville. Director Paul Prachniak's concern is who would be responsible for paying to create more parking spaces. The Town Planner Albert Ranaldi stated this year is not a good year to work on this. Mr. Ranaldi stated that first Lonsdale is being taken care of then Manville and then Saylesville sometime next year.

**Chairman Kevin Bryson spoke with Paul Prachniak as well and Paul Prachniak did make a good point that there is a lot of work that would have to be done for only a very small amount of extra parking spaces.**

**Chairman Kevin Bryson went to Saylesville and assessed the amount of work that would have to be done and came to a conclusion that there would need to be a lot of leveling done along with some retaining walls. Also removing trees and vegetation will cause runoffs and this could possibly create problems for surrounding homes. The Commission members feel that too much money would have to be spent to add more parking spaces. One suggestion made was to use a bus shuttle when there is a big event planned at Saylesville to alleviate the difficult parking situation.**

**A motion to adjourn was made by Commission member Roy Coulombe and seconded by member Erin Vaughan.**

**The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.**